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2124

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#5
J. C. H. 2
6-9-04

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RECEIVED

Serial No. : 09/817,074

MAY 13 2004

Filed : March 26, 2001

Technology Center 2100

Title : **Process For Processing Variable Length Data**

Examiner : Chat C. Do

Group Art Unit : 2124

May 7, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

As discussed by Applicants' representative and Examiner Do on May 3, 2004, the above-referenced application is restricted by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of six distinct species:

Species 1, including claims 1 – 3 and illustrated by FIG. 1;

Species 2, including claims 4 – 7 and illustrated by FIG. 2;

Species 3, including claims 8 – 10 and illustrated by FIG. 3;

Species 4, including claim 11 and illustrated by FIG. 5;

Species 5, including claims 12 - 14 and illustrated by FIG. 6; and

Species 6, including claims 15 - 16 and illustrated by FIG. 16.

Any fee due with this paper may be
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pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 101.11
By J. Muir
Patricia Muir

Applicants elect without traverse the claim grouping associated Species 1 (claims 1 – 3), and reserve all rights to file one or more divisional patent applications based on the unelected claims at a future time.

An earnest effort has been made to respond to this Restriction Requirement. It is believed that elected claims 1 – 3 stand in condition for allowance. Passage of this application to allowance is earnestly solicited. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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